**Researches in applied disciplines**

1737. SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the fact that number of doctorates being awarded in arts and science disciplines is much higher as compared to other applied disciplines like law, management, technology/engineering, medicine, etc.;

(b) if so, the reasons for such lack of research in applied disciplines;

(c) what steps are being taken to encourage doctoral research in such disciplines;

(d) whether Government has also made an appraisal that majority of doctoral thesis remain unpublished, indicating the quality of doctoral thesis; and

(e) if so, what steps are being taken to improve the quality of doctoral research?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) A possible reason for comparatively lesser number of doctorates in applied disciplines is that majority of the graduates passing out from Law, Management Technology, Engineering, Medicine and other professional streams prefer to join industry or profession rather than going for post graduate and doctoral education, as employment opportunities for them are better than their counterparts in Arts and Science disciplines. Keeping in view the declining quality and quantum of basic scientific research in universities, a Task Force under the Chairmanship of Prof. M. M. Sharma was constituted by the Central Government. The recommendations of the Task Force have been accepted by Government, and the Task Force has been converted to an Empowered Committee to implement the recommendations. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has taken initiative for augmenting research and teaching resources of universities. The initiative includes a scheme of faculty improvement programme to enable the working teachers to do M.Phil or complete their Ph.D.

**Failure of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan**

†1738. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan has not only been dissatisfactory, but also failed to achieve desired results, so far;

(b) if so, the funds allocated, released and utilized and actual achievement made, togetherwith the comprehensive details thereof;

(c) whether it is also fact that some States have abolished the regular and vacant posts in middle schools and high schools and appointed teachers, by paying honorarium out of the funds of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan against those posts, resulting in the decline in the standard and quality of education; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme is being implemented in all districts of the country to achieve the goal of universalization of elementary education in a time bound manner, in a mission mode. **Consequently since the launch of SSA all the out of school children in the 6-14 age group in the country** (who numbered 320 lakh in 2001-02), **have been brought in the ambit of elementary education except 75.97 lakh out-of-school children (as on 31.03.2007), who represent the difficult to reach category.**

(b) Central Budget support of Rs. 10,671 crore was provided in Budget Estimates 2007-08 for implementation of SSA. This was enhanced to Rs. 13,171 crore in the Revised Estimates 2007-08. An amount of Rs. 11,336.38 crore has already been released to States/ UTs as on 10.03.2008. **Cumulative achievements made for key targets under SSA up to 31.12.2007 are given in Statement** (*See* below).

(c) and (d) Under SSA programme 11.32 lakh teachers have been sanctioned up to 2007-08 against which 8.80 Lakh teachers have been recruited till 31.12.2007. This has led to improvement in national average of Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR) from 38:1 in 2005-06 to 36:1 in 2006-07 at primary level and from 34:1 to 32:1 at upper primary level in the corresponding period.

***Statement***

*Details of funds allocated, released and utilized and actual achievement made therein*

| Sl. No. | Items | Cumulative targets since inception including 2007-08 | Achievements (upto 31.12.2007) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Opening of New schools | 275585 | Completed | 186985@ (77.88%) |
| 2. | Construction of school buildings | 210883 | Completed and in Progress | 184536 (87.50%) |
| 3. | Construction of additional classrooms | 815517 | Completed and in progress | 756030 (92.71%) |
| 4. | Drinking water facilities | 188832 | Completed and in progress | 175413 (92.89%) |
| 5. | Construction of toilets | 244297 | Completed and in progress | 221851 (90.81%) |
| 6. | Teacher appointment | 11.32 lakh | Completed | 8.81 lakh (77.82%) |
| 7. | Enrolment in *EGS/AIE Centres | 185.67 lakh (Annual) | Coverage | 82.28 lakh* (44.3%) |
| 8. | Teacher training (20 days) | 3573735 (Annual) | Completed | 1914575 (54%) |
| 9. | Supply of Free textbooks | 6.91 crore (Annual) | Supplied | 6.53 cr. (94%) |

*Side by side EGS are converted to Primary Schools (data upto 30.9.2007).

@ Data against target and achievement of upto March, 2007 completed on Annual basis.